

privilege of a friend, in addressing you a few remarks on that topic. Unless you have thoroughly considered the question, I venture, with great deference, to suggest that the order is without sufficient legal warrant; and may involve those charged with its execution in very serious difficulties. If distilling is about to be carried on, in the face of the recent Statute, which is highly penal, (about which I have no information), it may be a proper occasion for a Proclamation, warning the offenders to desist, and exhorting the Magistrates and civil officers to be vigilant in arresting all such offenders, & committing or binding them over to the Superior Courts for trial. But, in my conception, as in that of my correspondent above referred to, there is no more authority to charge the Military with the duty of searching out and bringing to punishment, criminals of this class, and to destroy their property, than in cases of fornication and adultery, or other misdemeanors, and the precedent is regarded as objectionable, because it seems to imply that the civil officers and courts of justice may be superseded in their ordinary functions, at any time, by the Military. I deem it proper and respectful, however, only to state the case for your consideration, not to argue it, and praying that you will pardon the freedom with which I have written, beg you to be assured of the kind regard with which, I remain.

From James A. Graham to Susan Washington Graham UNC

Coosawhatchie,
South Carolina,
March 8th., 1863.

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This is a great country, nearly all swamps. We are living on high-walk, swampseed, & grits, or, in other words, beef, rice and corn meal, for that is the name by which they are called in this part of the world. I have never received a single copy of the "Biblical Recorder"³⁸ yet.

As we are moving about so much, perhaps you had better have it sent to somebody that can get it. I would like very much to have it, but as we are moving so much, there is no telling where to have it sent.

³⁸ The *Biblical Recorder*, published in Raleigh, reflected the North Carolina Baptist viewpoint. Johnson, *Ante-Bellum North Carolina*, 463, 802.